

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 085204

NODIS
FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT LUSAKA 1110 SENT ACTION SECSTATE, LAGOS INFO
DAR ES SALAAM, CAPE TOWN, LONDON, MAPUTO, GABORONE 01 APR 78

QUOTE S E C R E T LUSAKA 1110

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

LAGOS FOR PRESIDENTIAL PARTY, AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND DICK MOOSE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1,3

TAGS: ZA, US, RH, PDEV

SUBJ: RHODESIA: KAUNDA MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT CARTER

WHILE DELIVERING TO PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT MARK CHONA PRESIDENT
CARTER'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT KAUNDA I WAS GIVEN THE FOLLOWING
NEW KAUNDA-CARTER LETTER. AN ACCOUNT OF THE VERY POSITIVE
CONVERSATION ON BOTH RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA WHICH ENSUED FOLLOWS
BY SEPTTEL.

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BEGIN TEXT

DEAR MR PRESIDENT;

YOU WILL BE NOW HAVE HEARD FROM PRESIDENT NYERERE AS CHAIRMAN
OF OUR RECENT FRONTLINE SUMMIT IN DAR-ES-SALAAM AS WELL AS FROM
AMBASSADOR YOUNG WITH WHOM I HAD VERY FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS

REGARDING THE DECISION WE MADE ON THE RHODESIAN ISSUE. I
SIMPLY WANT YOU TO KNOW, ONCE AGAIN THAT WE SUPPORT THE CALL
FOR THE CONVENING OF THE CONFERENCE IN WHICH ALL THE PARTIES
TO THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON ZIMBABWE WILL PARTICIPATE. WE BELIEVE
THAT THE AGENDA OF THAT CONFERENCE MUST BE THE ANGLO-AMERICAN
PROPOSALS TO WHICH WE HAVE REAFFIRMED OUR COMMITMENT AS A BASIS
FOR NEGOTIATIONS TO ACHIEVE MAJORITY RULE AND INDEPENDENCE
FOR ZIMBABWE.

WE AGREE THAT SOME PROGRESS WAS MADE IN MALTA. WE, THEREFORE,
SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL FOR THE IMMEDIATE RESUMPTION OF THE MALTA
TALKS.

WE HAVE LOOKED AT THE NUMBER OF PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE BEDEVILLED
THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS. THE FIRST
IS THE POWERS OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER. WE BELIEVE THAT
IT IS NOW POSSIBLE TO FIND A FORMULA WHICH IS BASED ON POWER-
SHARING BUT WHICH ALSO RECOGNISES THAT BRITAIN IS THE COLONIAL
POWER IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

ANOTHER PROBLEM IS THE UNITED NATIONS PARTICIPATION. AN
IMPRESSION APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN GIVEN THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT
IS OPPOSED TO THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING FORCE. I BELIEVE
THAT AGREEMENT IS POSSIBLE ON THIS ISSUE.

THE REAL PROBLEM IS THE ILLEGAL GOVERNMENT IN RHODESIA. NOW,
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WE HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, THE O.A.U. AND THE
FRONTLINE STATES ON THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN BRITAIN AND
AMERICA ON ONE HAND AND THE PATRIOTIC FRONT ON THE OTHER.
THESE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE WIDENED TO INCLUDE THE NEWLY
ESTABLISHED ILLEGAL REGIME IN SALISBURY. WE SHOULD NOT PRESS
THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TO ACCEPT THE TERMS OF THE ILLEGAL REGIME.

FOR THIS REASON, I URGE AGAIN THAT WE RECOGNISE WHO IS
INTRANSIGENT IN THE CONFLICT. WE BELIEVE THAT THE PATRIOTIC
FRONT TOGETHER WITH FRONTLINE STATES ARE WITH BRITAIN AND THE
UNITED STATES AND THAT THE REAL PROBLEM REMAINS THE SMITH REGIME
WHICH NOW INCORPORATES THE BLACK SIGNATORIES TO THE SALISBURY
AGREEMENT. YOU WOULD CERTAINLY NEED TO BE VERY FIRM WITH IAN
SMITH AND THE CO-SIGNATORIES TO THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT IN ORDER
TO GUARANTEE SUCCESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANGLO-
AMERICAN PROPOSALS.

I AM SURE YOU ALSO KNOW THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT INSISTS THAT
THE ISSUE OF MILITARY PROBLEMS PARTICULARLY RELATING TO CEASE-
FIRE DURING TRANSITION SHOULD BE BETWEEN THE PATRIOTIC FRONT
AND THE SMITH REGIME. THIS NOW RAISES NO PROBLEM AS PRESUMABLY
THE SALISBURY GROUP WILL BE REGARDED AS ONE DELEGATION. THE

FULL CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE IS A MATTER WHICH IS OPEN TO ALL POLITICAL PARTIES IN ZIMBABWE INCLUDING THOSE WHO DID NOT ATTEND THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IF THEY WISH TO PARTICIPATE.

IN THE MEANTIME, WE VERY MUCH WELCOME THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY YOUR GOVERNMENT THAT YOU REGARD THE NEW GOVERNMENT IN SALISBURY AS ILLEGAL AS THE PREVIOUS REGIME.

AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE, I REMAIN OF THE FIRM BELIEF THAT THE RESOLUTION OF THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM AS OF THE NAMIBIAN PROBLEM DEPENDS ENTIRELY ON YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I SAY THIS FROM BITTER EXPERIENCE OF DEALING WITH THE VARIOUS PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. I HAVE PUBLICLY SAID AMERICA MUST TAKE THE FRONT SEAT IN ENDING THE WAR IN ZIMBABWE. IN SAYING SO I GIVE
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YOU MY VOTE OF CONFIDENCE. I HAVE GREAT RESPECT FOR BRITAIN, BUT IT IS INCREASINGLY BECOMING CLEARER THAT BRITAIN, IF LEFT TO HER OWN DEVICES, WOULD ACCEPT ANY SOLUTION EVEN IF IT DOES NOT RESOLVE THE CONFLICT AS LONG AS IT ABSOLVES HER OF THE PROBLEM.

I, THEREFORE, URGE YOU TO BE EVEN MORE DECISIVE IN DEALING WITH IAN SMITH NOW THAT WE ARE TOGETHER FIRMLY IN GETTING A FORWARD MOVEMENT IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS.

I WISH YOU SUCCESS IN YOUR CURRENT MISSION. I HONESTLY BELIEVE THAT WE ARE VERY CLOSE TO ACHIEVING PEACE AND PROSPERITY WITH JUSTICE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

AS ALWAYS,

KENNETH D. KAUNDA
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

END TEXT
LOW

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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